

A CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C11B1/10 B01E B01D61/14 A61K35/56 According to International Patent Classification (iPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B01D C11B A61K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE, BIOSIS, MEDLINE C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Calegory * US 5 707 673 A (J. E. PREVOST ET AL) 1-3, 5,χ 13 January 1998 (1998-01-13) 8-11 Υ the whole document WO 97/09992 A (J.W. BROADBENT NOMINEES PTY. LTD; MACRIDES, THEODORE; KALAFATIS, NICOL) 20 March 1997 (1997-03-20) Υ page 7, line 20 - page 9, line 6 & US 6 083 536 A 4 July 2000 (2000-07-04) cited in the application 1 - 11WO 00/23546 A (UNIVERSITE DE SHERBROOKE) Α 27 April 2000 (2000-04-27) page 4, line 29 - page 6, line 25 Patent family members are listed in annex Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C Х Special calegories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the last which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) Involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive slep when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the ad-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the International filling date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of malling of the international search report 19/05/2005 10 May 2005 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 Ni. - 2280 HV Fliswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx 31 651 epo nl Siatou, E Fex: (+31-70) 340-3016

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